



Garrison News



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MISSION

- U.S. Army Garrison provides and maintains the installation infrastructure to:
- support power projection and training of III Corps units/soldiers;
 - provide a quality living and working environment for soldiers, families, retirees, and authorized civilians;
 - sustain an effective partnership with our surrounding communities;
 - and support the III Corps / Fort Hood transformation process.

VISION

The Army's model power projection platform, training installation, and community. A great place to train, work, and live.

Thrift Savings Plan

OPEN SEASON
15 Oct - 31 Dec

For more information, visit the following websites:
<<https://www.abc.army.mil>> or
<http://www.tsp.gov>

ACAP Center

ACAP is open for business as usual on 10 November, a III Corps training holiday. This is a great time to take advantage of our counselor services, the computers, and ACAP expertise in planning a smooth and sound transition! The center will be closed on Veterans Day.

Preparing to deploy? Mission permitting, if you have an ETS date between now and one year after your deployment date, or retirement date between now and within two years after your deployment date, we can take care

of some preliminary business prior to deployment. Then we can be in contact with you during your deployment as your schedule allows. In the case of reenlistment, one can simply inform us and discontinue the ACAP process.

Now is the time to prepare for the **ACAP Center Job Fair on 21 January 2004 at the Fort Hood Officers' Club**. It is scheduled from **1000-1500** and is open to the public.

Call the ACAP Center at 288-ACAP(2227) or 288-JOBS(5627) for information or visit us in the new Copeland Soldiers Service Center, bldg. 18010, Hood Road and Battalion Ave., third floor, B wing. (AG)

HAPPY BIRTHDAY Army Family Team Building!!

We are celebrating a birthday at the Lane Volunteer Center and the guest of honor is Army Community Service, Army Family Team Building which is 9 years old this year. Join us in our celebration with a cake cutting ceremony, 16 December at 1400. We will be celebrating all of our accomplishments with our students (past and present), our volunteers, and staff with the public at the Lane Volunteer Center, Bldg 16005, corner of Hood Road and Old Ironsides. Come out and join us in recognizing a program that has benefited thousands of families throughout The Army.

This month we are providing the following classes:
Level I Classes (day), 4&5 November from 0845-1400 (lunch provided on 4 November)
Level II Classes (day), 12 & 13, 18 & 19 November from 0845-1400
Teen Workshop (evening), 25 November from 1800-1930 (dinner provided with reservation)

Classes can also be reserved for units. Call 286-5913 or 286-6600 for all reservations.

If you are interested in a rewarding volunteer opportunity that can enhance your resume, please call our office. (DCA)

DPW Employees Train "Lumberjacks"

The 20th Engineer Battalion "Lumberjacks" trained and worked alongside DPW Maintenance Roads and Grounds personnel recently. The Battalion Operation Officer contacted SGM Douglas and requested training support on heavy equipment that is organic to our organization. The soldiers received operator training on DPW 5 Ton Dump Trucks and the Front End Loader in preparation for deployment to the National Training Center in Fort Irwin, CA. Administrative arrangements were completed and training began on 14 Oct in the DPW material stockyard and concluded 2 days later with the **licensing of 24 fully capable heavy equipment operators**. The "Lumberjacks" reacted very favorably to the "just in time" training provided by our professionals and have immediately deployed some of the trained soldiers as advance party representatives to their new training site in the California desert. (DPW)

Federal Employees Health Benefits Open Season

Open Season for Federal Employees Health Benefits (FEHB) starts **November 10 and runs through December 08, 2003**. During this open season, you may change your FEHB coverage. In addition, open season allows employees to change their premium conversion election (waive or begin participation). The effective date for

Before making an election, take the time to verify the cost and coverage of the plan you are interested in. Many times a Plan sounds good by word of mouth from a co-worker, but once in the Plan, the employee finds out that their needs are not being met or that the doctor they had been going to previously is not a Preferred Provider. Employees need to understand which Plans have deductibles, what their catastrophic limits are, and if there is an associate membership fee that the employee must pay yearly to that Plan. It is important that employees read the brochures carefully and ask questions of the carrier before they sign up.

The CPAC will host a Health Benefits Fair on November 20, 2003 from 9:00 until 3:00 at the Phantom Warrior Center, Building 194, on 37th Street. (Across the street from Pentagon Federal Credit Union). All

**AFAP-
Let's Talk Changes...**

***Make a Difference Day
Volunteer Recognition
Reception: Celebrate the Gift
of Giving***

**Volunteer Management
Workshop: Dressing for
Success/Office
Etiquette/Customer Service
5 Nov 03, 1000-1100**

**Army Performance Improvement
Criteria (APIC) Training
15 – 19 Dec 03**
Contact your training coordinator for
more information. (SPO)

All classes are held at the Lane Volunteer Center, Bldg 16005, located on the corner of Hood Road and Old Ironsides Ave. (DCA)

Volunteer of the Year Nomination Writing Workshop

It's time to start thinking about Volunteer of the Year. If you want to learn to write a winning nomination, join us for our Nomination Writing Workshop, 20 Nov 03, 1000.

For more information or to register, please call 287-(VOLS) 8657. All workshops are held at the Lane Volunteer Center, Corner of Hood Road & Old Ironsides Ave. (DCA)

Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP)

Army Community Service, Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) would like you to join us. The "Sea Dragons" meet every Thursday, 1800-1900, at the Abrams Fitness Center. Anyone with a special needs child can enjoy a fun filled evening of swimming for the whole family, at no cost. On 19 November, 1230-1430, Comanche (Post) Chapel, EFMP will conduct their monthly Orientation for newly assigned and newly identified soldiers who have family members with special needs. On 20 November, EFMP will have a EFMP Information Fair from 1330-1530, at the Killeen WIC Office, 111 Santa Fe Plaza on 2nd St. Please come out and get lots of information. On 24 November, 1800-2000, the EFMP Support Group will meet to share common experiences and challenges unique to special needs families - a great way to learn about new information and resources. This month's guest speaker will be Cheri Steiner, from Darnall Army Community Hospital, who will speak on "Asthma". Come join all the fun, meet new people, and learn more about what is going on with special needs families. In addition, a web site has been set up for military families with special medical or educational needs - <http://mfrc.calib.com/snn>. Check it out and discover the resources that are available for you. The Exceptional Family Member Program (EFMP) is a mandatory enrollment

program, which works with other military and civilian agencies to provide comprehensive and coordinated medical, educational, housing, community support, and personnel services to families with special needs. For more information, please call the EFMP office at 287-6070/1673, or come visit us at ACS, Albee Hall, Building 9001, 20th/Battalion. (DCA)

New Change to Funded Childcare

Childcare will still be funded during advertised training session, but the care will be provided at the Fort Hood Child Development Center or through a Certified Family Childcare provider. Registration is required. If not already registered, participants may choose an annual registration, or a limited, short-term (3 days) registration for a \$5.00 fee. If customers choose a full/annual registration later on, the \$5.00 fee will be applied to the annual registration fee. To make reservations at Fort Hood Child Development Center, call up to 2 weeks in advance at 287-6037.

To RSVP or for additional information contact Army Community Service, Soldier and Family Readiness Branch at 288-5155 or e-mail David.Gretsch@hood.army.mil. (DCA)

Army Community Service, Advocacy And Prevention Branch, Family Advocacy Program (FAP)

Please help join Fort Hood in celebrating and appreciating our Military Families. The mission of the Family Advocacy Program (FAP) is to build community support, provide programs and services that positively influence individuals, couples and families to prevent conditions that stimulate the development of family violence. FAP provides a comprehensive and coordinated approach that promotes individual, couple, and family wellness. FAP provides information, education, training opportunities and services that focus upon relationship building skills and activities as well as

services to meet the needs of the military community. Stress-Anger-Conflict Management Workshop will be offered 25 Nov, 0900-1600, Soldier Development Center (Building 33009). Make plans to participate in the "FAP Car Safety Seat Inspection & Education Program" 28 Nov, Sprocket Auto Craft Shop, 0830-1530. Please call for reservation.

New Parent Support Program Plus (NPSP+) is an Army program, administered under the Family Advocacy Program, that provides parenting education and support through home visitation and scheduled activities to families with children from newborn to three years old. NPSP+ home visitors at Fort Hood are a team of Registered Nurses and Masters-level Social Workers who work with parents to develop and strengthen parenting skills, enhance their confidence as parents, and assist parents in meeting the challenges of parenting in a military community. Every Wednesday NPSP+ presents, "Exploring Learning And Play" from 0930-1100, at the Child and Youth Services, Bronco Youth Center, Bldg 6602. On the fourth Wednesday, NPSP+ Support Group will meet in conjunction with Playmorning. Resources are provided for parents that promote the development of a safe, caring environment for the military child.

Family Advocacy Victim Advocacy Program assists survivors of Domestic Violence in crisis situations.

There is no cost to participate in Family Advocacy Program activities. Childcare is provided. For more information please call 286-6774 / 287-2286 or visit the Advocacy & Prevention Offices in Albee Hall, Building 9001. (DCA)

Recycle Center Field Trips

The Recycle Center has been busy this month providing outreach educational opportunities to over 425 local school children working on their science module. "Team Recycle," along with Ricky Raccoon, the Recycling Mascot,

hosted 7 days of field trips for the month of October. Classes ranged from First to Third grade and involved the East Ward Elementary School, Fowler Elementary School, Maxdale Elementary School and classes from the various TAG (Talented and Gifted) school programs within the Killeen area. Several students and teachers on the tours this month were repeat visitors from last year.

Students and teachers were given a background overview of the Recycling Center and quizzed on their knowledge of the decomposition of plastics, glass, and aluminum in the landfill. The students demonstrated their knowledge of secondary market items that the commodities could be recycled into or crafts and projects they could do at home.

As the students toured the state-of-art processing center, the tour guides allowed time for the students and teachers to ask questions regarding the equipment or commodities observed. The most frequent comment made was, 'there is so much stuff here!'

Upon departure, all the students are reminded about the 'Three R's of Recycling,' Reduce, Reuse and Recycle and given a 'Ricky' sticker from the Recycling Mascot. The students are asked to teach their parents, family members and friends to recycle! (DPW)

Make A Difference Day

The day started off as a lazy Saturday morning in the sleepy town of Killeen. Unknown to most people in the surrounding community, 11 of the Directorate of Public Works' finest started working at the "Families in Crisis" Center on Make a Difference Day. Most of the DPW gang did not have a clue of what they had signed up for, but SGM Douglas was quick to give them direction.

Our tasks included the following in the kitchen/dining area:

- Removing 3 kitchen counters
- Removing 1 set of cupboards
- Removing a kitchen sink and capping the waste and supply lines

-Repairing walls and placing floor tiles where counters once stood

Tasks in the administrative area and hallways included:

- Priming doors and walls
- Painting a total of 23 doors
- Painting 5 sections of hallway
- Painting kitchen and dining area

Much of the team did not have prior painting skills, but after several gallons of paint and many coats of primer, they left knowing their next job could be on the TV show "Trading Spaces".

The Families in Crisis Center went from a facility, which had multicolored doors and walls to a warm and homier look of off-white doors and walls with blue wainscoting.

The DPW crew did not have the expertise to fabricate the much needed counter tops and shelving, so the money we were able to collect will be used to purchase the material and **Sierra Management** (Erendira Garner) contractors will donate their time to make the \$1,500.00 kitchen addition. The project was completed 31 Oct 03.

DPW participants were: Mike Coggin, Karen Sheppard, Nancy Niemann, SGM Douglas, Joanie Cook, Gary Tooke, Vicki Bump, Lois Gregor, Paul Duncil, Tim McPherson, and Bryan Dorrough. (DPW)

Functional Review (Manpower Study) – Directorate of Public Works

Mr. Michael Ryan, with the U. S. Army Manpower Analysis Agency, conducted an IMA Functional Review (Manpower Study) from 14-24 Oct. This review focused on current staffing and functions of the Residual (Army) RCI staff. The purpose of the review was to develop a staffing model for determining manpower of RCI projects.

Visitors – BG Vane, Commander of Fort Bliss, visited and toured the housing areas while at Fort Hood for the memorial service for CSM Blankenbecker. COL Bryan Greenwald and CSM David Radford, Garrison Commander and Garrison

CSM from Fort Bliss, also toured the housing areas and discussed our partnering methods. (DPW)

Garrison Commander Hosts Hood Hero Awards Ceremony

COL William Parry, Garrison Commander, and CSM Thomas McMurtrie presented awards to 82 individuals and teams at the 4th Quarter Commanding General's Quarterly Hood Hero Awards Luncheon, 31 Oct, at the Fort Hood Officers' Club.

Awards were presented in the following categories: Customer Service Excellence – Team and Individual, Safety, Retention, Individual Quality, Volunteer of the Quarter, Youth Volunteer of the Quarter, Outstanding Commitment to a Job, Team of Excellence, Best-Self-Help/U-Do-It Project, Government Technology Leadership, Civilian Length of Service, Police Officer of the Quarter, Civilian Fire Fighter of the Quarter, Civilian and Military Air Traffic Controllers of the Quarter, Acquisition Commander of the Year, Staff of Acquisition Commander of the Year, Installation-Level Contracting Center, and Army Deployment Excellence Awards,

Hood Hero Awards Luncheons for 2004 will be at the Fort Hood Officers' Club, 1130-1300, on the following dates: 3 Feb (nominations due 9 Jan), 12 May (nominations due 9 Apr), 4 Aug (nominations due 9 Jul), and 5 Nov (nominations due 8 Oct).

POC for the Hood Hero Awards Program is Cathy Davis, Strategic Planning Office, 618-7357. (SPO)

ACOE for HQDA

The down-select for determining the top five Army Communities of Excellence (ACOE) installations will be held 10-21 Nov 03 at Camp Robinson, Little Rock, AR. These five installations will receive a 5-day site visit between 1–19 Dec 03.

The Strategic Planning Office is providing two personnel as examiners. (SPO)